

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01710 052241Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /051 W  
-----002410 052251Z /61  
O 052232Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6929

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, CA  
SUBJECT: LIBERALS GAIN IN MARCH GALLUP POLL

REF: OTTAWA 1084

1. IF LIBERALS NEEDED ADDED PUSH TO HOLD ELECTIONS IN SPRING, THEY LIKELY GOT IT FROM MOST RECENT GALLUP POLL, TAKEN IN MARCH. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, LIBERALS ROSE TWO POINTS TO 45 PERCENT (LAST POLL WAS CONDUCTED IN FEBRUARY), WHILE THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES (PC) DROPPED TWO POINTS TO 34 PERCENT. NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP) REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 17 PERCENT AND UNDECIDEDS ROSE FROM 33 TO 38 PERCENT.

2. COMMENT: PRESUMABLY, TRUDEAU NATIONAL MEDIA EXPOSURE AT FIRST MINISTERS CONFERENCE AND LIBERAL CONVENTION, BOTH IN FEBRUARY, HAD FAVORABLE IMPACT ON VOTERS. TWO PERCENT RISE FOR LIBERALS AND COMMENSURATE DROP FOR TORIES, HOWEVER, IS MILDLY SURPRISING TO US IN VIEW OF LIBERAL PROBLEMS WITH THE ECONOMY AND IMAGE OF A DRIFTING GOVERNMENT. WE HAD IMPRESSION, MOREOVER, THAT PC LEADER JOE CLARK WAS REBOUNDED SOMEWHAT FROM LAST YEAR'S DISASTROUS PERSONAL IMAGE AND THAT TORIES WERE PROFITING, AGAIN  
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SOMEWHAT, FROM LIBERAL MISFORTUNE. DESPITE POLL'S ENCOURAGEMENT FOR LIBERALS, BIG RISE IN UNDECIDEDS DEMONSTRATES THAT CANADIANS IN DROVES ARE TURNED ON BY NO MAJOR PARTY. WHERE THEY GO COULD BE IMPORTANT SWING FACTOR IN ELECTION. DUEMLING

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARTY LINE, PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, POLITICAL PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978OTTAWA01710  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780147-0765  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 OTTAWA 1084  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014